

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Muneo MITAMURA et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
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Application No.: Unassigned)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: October 31, 2003)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)	
For: OPTICAL ENCODER)	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, a copy of the listed U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003.

The document is being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since document is being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the document is listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: 10/31/03

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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 030673-171	APPLICATION NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Muneo MITAMURA et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	2003/0155491	A1	ITO et al.	08-21-2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.